



Anapol Schwartz | Attorneys at Law

MELANOMA

PENNSYLVANIA SKIN CANCER LAWYERS

ORGANIZED BY THE LAWYERS AT ANAPOL SCHWARTZ. © 2009 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

CONTACT LAWYERS: HOWARD J. LEVIN, ESQ. & STEPHEN J. POKINIEWSKI, JR., ESQ.

CALL: (215) 735-2435 OR (215) 735-3770

EMAIL: hlevin@anapolschwartz.com OR spokiniewski@anapolschwartz.com

READ MORE INFORMATION ONLINE AT: www.anapolschwartz.com

DISCLAIMER: This information is not intended to replace the advice of a doctor. Please use this information to help in your conversation with your doctor. This is general background information and should not be followed as medical advice. Please consult your doctor regarding all medical questions and for all medical treatment.





MELANOMA - SKIN CANCER

One person dies every 65 minutes because of malignant melanoma. Malignant melanoma accounts for only 4 percent of skin cancers but causes the greatest number of skin cancer-related deaths worldwide. Among American women ages 20 to 29, malignant melanoma is the second leading cancer. Tanned skin is not healthy and actually indicates that the skin has been damaged whether from natural sunlight or tanning beds.

CONTACT A LAWYER

Free No-Obligation Consultation

Please contact us for a free no-obligation consultation. The more information that you can provide, the more helpful it will be. You are under no obligation to continue. Any information you provide will be held in the strictest of confidence.

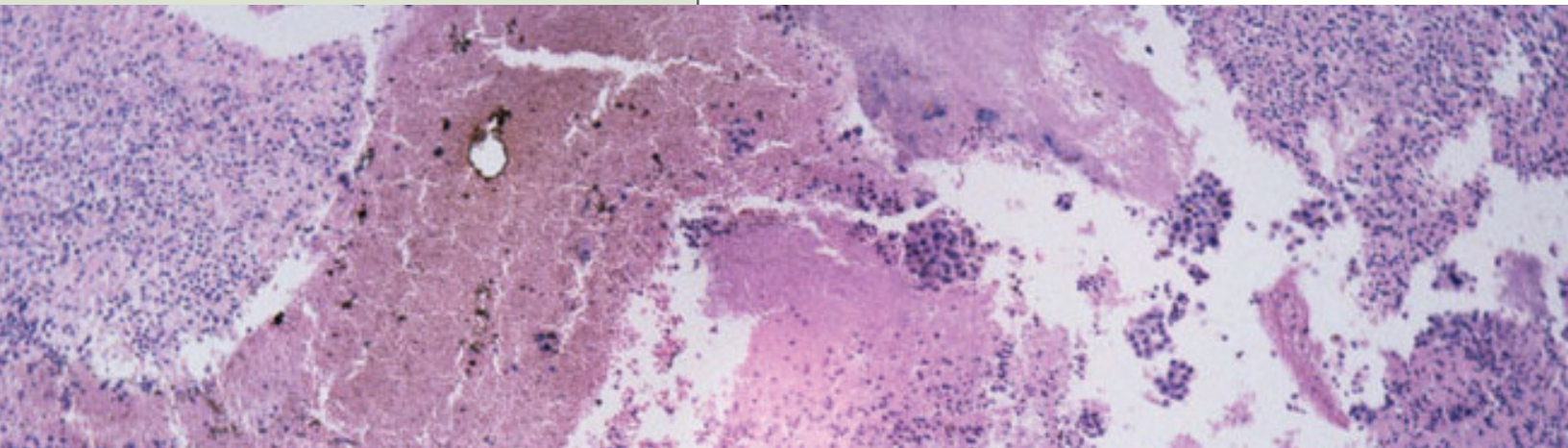
If you have questions, please call us toll-free at **1-866-735-2792**.

COMMON REASONS

The most common reasons for failure to diagnose melanoma skin cancer are inaccurate pathological diagnoses, inadequate biopsies, and lack of follow up.

If detected in the earliest stages, melanoma has a 99 percent five-year survival rate. Medical negligence lawsuits for failure to diagnose melanoma in its early stages have escalated.

You are most at risk for developing malignant melanoma if you have fair skin that sunburns easily; have natural red or blond hair and blue, green, or gray eyes; experienced excessive sunburn as a child or teen, have over 100 moles as an adult or 50 moles, if under age 20; and have a family history of skin cancer.





SUSPICIOUS-LOOKING MOLES

When a person goes to the doctor for what they think could be a suspicious-looking mole, the doctor should take a complete medical history and ask the patient about his or her history of sun exposure, history of normal and abnormal moles, and family history of skin conditions.

Next the doctor should perform a skin examination and check for enlarged lymph nodes, which may indicate cancer has spread.

PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE

The doctor must be cognizant of the ABCD warning signs such as asymmetrical moles, moles without borders, color of moles, and diameter of moles. If the doctor is unsure, he should refer you to a dermatologist. Doctors should perform a biopsy after surgically removing the mole. There are different methods of performing a biopsy. Then a pathologist should examine the skin to determine if there is a risk for cancer. Lastly, it should be reviewed and noted. When cancer has not moved beyond the visible tumor, this is considered localized skin cancer. Fortunately, most skin cancers are diagnosed at this stage.

But when the cancer has spread beyond the original site; this is called metastatic cancer. Aggressive treatment needs to start and it could be too late.

What happens when your loved one does the right thing and goes to the doctor for a suspicious looking mole? What happens when the doctor fails to recognize it or fails to biopsy it or fails to follow up with the pathology report?

IT'S PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE.

Do you have a [malignant melanoma lawsuit](#)?

If you have questions, please call us toll-free at **1-866-735-2792**.